tial items for distribution through the Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by different State Governments to implement the directives of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government has taken upon itself the responsibility for supply of seven essential commodities viz.; wheat, rice, sugar, edible oil, kerosene oil, controlled cloth and soft coke to the States/Union Territories under the Public Distribution System. The States/Union Territories are, however, free to add any other item that they consider essential and for which they can make procurement and distribution arrangements on their own. The Central Government has advised the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations from time to time to widen the commodity coverage of fair price shops so that more commodities of mass consumption could be made available to the common people at reasonable prices. As per reports received from various States, many essential items of mass consumption in addition to the seven items are being sold through Fair Price Shops.

**Export of wheat**

1058. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to export wheat in 1985-86;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat likely to be exported; and

(c) the names of the countries to which wheat is proposed to be exported?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government have decided to allow export of limited quantities of Wheat. Maida, Suji and Wholemeal atta, subject to the prescribed minimum export prices.

It is not possible to indicate the quantities likely to be exported and the countries to which these exports will be made. However, Food Corporation of India has already entered into a contract for supply of 5 lakh tonnes of wheat to the U.S.S.R. and 50,000 tonnes of wheat as a commodity loan to Viet Nam, besides a quantity of 1 lakh tonnes of wheat being supplied to drought affected African countries.

**Evaluation of the farmers agro-service centres schemes**

1059. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government launched a scheme in 1983-84 for the establishment of farmers' agro-service centres for popularisation of improved agricultural implements and hand tools;

(b) if so, what was the capital outlay involved;

(c) whether Government have undertaken a review of the implementation of this scheme by the States, if so, its outcome and the State-wise achievements; and

(d) whether the scheme is proposed to be continued in the Seventh Five Year Plan also, if so, its capital outlay and funds to be allocated to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total outlay Rs. 173496 cr. Central Share restricted to Rs. 5.500 cr.

(c) (1) Besides monitoring and review of the progress of the scheme at various levels a review was taken by the Secretary (A&C) on the 27th August, 1984 subsequently on 10th June, 1985.

(2) as a result of the follow up action many of the State Agro Industries Corporations have started the manufacture and distribution of animal drawn agricultural implements and hand tools. The State Governments have selected the blocks for establishment of the farmers Agro service centres. The distribution of improved implements and tools at subsidised rates have also shown improvement.

(3) The Statewise achievements on the basis of the reports received till 30th June, 1985 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) (1) The spill over of the Sixth Plan scheme with a central outlay of Rs. 220 lakhs is being implemented during the current year (1985-86). An amount of Rs. 68.14 lakhs has already been released to various States/U.Ts.

(2) The central outlay for Rajasthan for the current year *i.e.* 1985-86 is Rs. 5,980 lakhs. On this a sum of Rs. 2.49 lakhs has already been released.

(3) It is proposed to continue the scheme during the 7th Plan period also. The scheme is under process of finalisation.

**Statement..**

*Programme made in the implementation of the scheme*

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched in December, 1983. The components of the scheme are:

(1) Establishment of Farmers Agro Service Centres for custom hiring.

(2) Demonstration.

(3) Popularisation of improved agricultural implements and tools at subsidized rates.

The three components of the scheme are to be implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The (c) component of the scheme is to be implemented in other States and four Union Trritories. Some of the State Governments were able to start implementation of the scheme during 1984 but other States started the implementation in 1985. The report from them is awaited. On the basis of the information received by the Ministry, the progress is as under:—

**'A'**

| State | Farmers Agro Service Centres established | Demonstration conducted | Implements and tools distributed |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Maharashtra | 39 | .. | 5362 |
| 2. Orissa | 7 | 702 | 69587 |
| 3. Tamil Nadu | 72 | 2868 | 15786 |
| 4. Uttar Pradesh | 4 | 476 | 12702 |

'B'

| State | No. of implements distributed |
|---|---|
| 1. Gujarat | 71672 |
| 2. Haryana | 162 |
| 3. Himachal Pradesh | 162 |
| 4. Rajasthan | 1602 |

**Discontinuation of T.V. serial 'Safarnama' on Doordarshan**

1060. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the 14th July, 1985 the Delhi Doordarshan authorities decided to discontinue a T.V. serial "Safarnama" presented at the initiative of the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor, when were the earlier 3 episodes of the serial had been telecast;

(c) whether such serials are not previewed by the Doordarshan authorities before telecast; and

(d) if so, what is the procedure followed in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The programmes are previewed by Doordarshan before their telecast, and because of the unsatisfactory quality of this programme, the serial has been discontinued. Three episodes of the serial were telecast on 23rd June, 30th June and 7th July, 1985.

(d) The proposal submitted to Doordarshan is first considered for approval of the theme and the treatment of the programme. Once this is approved, the producer is required to submit a pilot of the proposed programme which is previewed by a Committee consisting of Director General, Doordarshan, Deputy Director General, Doordarshan and the concerned Controller of Programmes in the Directorate General, Doordarshan. If the pilot is approved by the Committee, the producer is given clearance for production of the series. He is also expected to keep up the standard of the series.

**Drinking water supply in Rajasthan**

1061. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of assistance received so far from the International Agencies like the World Bank and the International Development Association in executing drinking water schemes in Rajasthan; and

(b) the progress made in providing drinking water facilities in the State so far and the number of large villages and towns covered and those expected to be covered during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) The Rajasthan Water Supply & Sewerage Project costing Rs. 136 crores is being assisted by World Bank (IDA). Out of 80 million U.S. dollars credit agreed to for this project, the credit utilised upto end of December 84 is 33.19 million U.S. dollars.